

back pain and impacted heart and lung function would begin.

Approximately one out of every six children diagnosed with scoliosis requires continued treatment, and, in extreme cases, surgery. It is of paramount importance that early detection resources are available to local schools and physicians to ensure that children and their families are both screened and educated about the condition.

Further, while up to three percent of the American population is estimated to have scoliosis, the number of family and friends who are impacted by this condition numbers many millions more. With early detection and proper treatment, patients can live a healthy and active life. National Scoliosis Awareness Month promotes public awareness for this condition—elevating the visibility of scoliosis and empowering individuals whose lives have been touched by this condition.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing June as National Scoliosis Awareness Month by thanking organizations such as the National Scoliosis Foundation and the Scoliosis Research Society, as well as their many supporters, for their tireless efforts in raising awareness of scoliosis and promoting critical research on this condition.

CELEBRATING CAPE VERDEAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of independence for the Republic of Cape Verde, or Cabo Verde, which was celebrated on Sunday, July 5th.

Uninhabited until its discovery by the Portuguese in the 15th century, Cape Verde grew into a thriving center of commerce by the time it achieved independence in 1975.

Today, the Republic of Cape Verde is a model democracy and friend to the United States.

My home state of Rhode Island is home to one of the largest Cape Verdean-American populations in the United States—with nearly 20,000 men, women, and children calling Rhode Island home today.

It is a privilege to serve on their behalf and represent their interests before Congress today.

I have also been fortunate to host Cape Verdean Prime Minister Jose Maria Neves for official visits to Rhode Island's First Congressional District and to discuss the work we can do together to strengthen the Cape Verdean community living in Rhode Island today.

I extend my best wishes to the people of Cape Verde for a joyous celebration of the 40th anniversary of their independence this month.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL SUNGLASSES DAY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Sunglasses Day and to honor the sunglass manufacturers and suppliers throughout my Dallas Congressional District, the State of Texas and around the country. Texas and the Dallas area are home to a variety of optical industry leaders including 24 optical laboratories that manufacture prescription sun wear, 3 lens manufacturers that supply UV filtering lenses, and 6 sun wear frame suppliers. As a physician, I commend the sunglass industry and their trade association The Vision Council (TVC) for ongoing outreach campaigns to educate consumers regarding the damaging effects of ultraviolet (UV) rays to the eye and healthy vision.

In the case of eye protection, what you don't know can hurt you. When it comes to the human eye and the sun's rays, it's what we can't see that matters most. UV radiation that reaches the earth's surface, made up of two types of invisible rays, UVA and UVB, endangers an unprotected eye. The effects of long-term exposure can include cataracts, macular degeneration, abnormal growths on the eye's surface and even cancer of the eye. While everyone should shield their eyes from UV rays, certain risk factors like age and eye color increase an individual's vulnerability to UV related eye disorders. Where you live and travel can also make a big difference in the level of UV exposure. Since UV damage can't be reversed, prevention through protection is key.

Later this summer, sunglass manufacturers and distributors from my home district in Texas and The Vision Council (TVC) will be convening a Capitol Hill briefing on the topic of UV danger and protecting your eye health. I encourage my colleagues to attend and applaud the sunglass community and The Vision Council for their leadership in promoting healthy vision.

116TH BIRTHDAY OF MS. SUSANNAH MUSHATT JONES

HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 116th birthday of Ms. Susannah Mushatt Jones, who is affectionately called Miss Susie. Confirmed by Guinness World Records as the world's oldest living person, she is a beloved member of the Brooklyn community I am proud to represent in Congress. In recognition of her birthday, Miss Susie will be honored on July 7, 2015 at the Vandalia Senior Center in Brooklyn, NY. We revel not just the years since her birth, but the history she has witnessed in three separate centuries. From experiencing segregation in the South to being a first-hand witness of the Civil Rights movement in New York, we commemorate her birthday with awe and inspiration.

Miss Susie was born into a large, loving family on July 6, 1899 in Lowndes County,

Alabama as the third of eleven children. In 1923 she moved to New York as part of the Great Migration of African Americans from the rural South to cities in the North, Midwest, and West. Miss Susie dedicated her professional pursuits to children, first as a school teacher and then as a childcare provider. At one point, she moved to Hollywood to work for a family in the film industry. During her time on the west coast, she enjoyed socializing with movie stars and attending movie premieres. She fondly remembers meeting Ronald Reagan, Clark Gable, and Cary Grant.

Family has always surrounded Miss Susie: she takes great delight in being an aunt to over 100 nieces and nephews. Throughout her life, she has brightened many lives with her positive attitude and infectious laugh. She resides in Vandalia Houses and was an active member of the Vandalia Houses Senior Center tenant patrol through her 100th birthday. Miss Susie credits her healthy lifestyle free of smoking and drinking for her longevity.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating Ms. Susannah Mushatt Jones on her 116th birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH AN- NIVERSARY OF CABO VERDE'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of the historic 40th Anniversary of Cabo Verdean independence.

The history of Cabo Verde is as intricate and vibrant as the people themselves. First founded by the adventuresome European explorers of the fifteenth century, Cabo Verde became a critical trading post on the route from the coasts of Africa and bustling Mediterranean ports to the newly discovered lands across the Atlantic. The diverse residents of Cabo Verde lived under Portuguese rule until the establishment of a transitional government and first election of a National Assembly in 1975. To date, July 5 remains celebrated by the residents of Cabo Verde and their growing diaspora overseas as a day of independence.

I have the privilege of representing communities in Southeastern Massachusetts that boast strong ties to Cabo Verde and hosts the highest concentration of Cabo Verdean-Americans in the United States. The Cities of New Bedford and Fall River, in addition to Brockton and Boston, are some of the largest communities of Cabo Verdean descent in the country.

The Cabo Verdean community has played an integral role in molding the rich culture of Massachusetts as we know it today. This influence dates back to the height of the whaling industry in the 18th century, during which time Cabo Verdeans were universally respected for their skills as seamen and whale hunters—recognized across the world as honest, hard workers. They continue to uphold that reputation in Massachusetts, where many Cabo Verdean-Americans continue to work in the historic fishing and cranberry industries.

Today, the scenic archipelago of Cabo Verde enjoys political stability, democratic rule and substantial economic growth.